



Identifying Hazards and Solutions



This activity is adapted from "Safe Jobs for Youth," a theme-based curriculum for vocational and high school students developed by the UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health (LOSH) Program. You can download the entire curriculum from the UCLA-LOSH website (<http://losh.ucla.edu> - Projects-Youth-Resources-Safe Jobs for Youth).

What is a Hazard? Make a list of possible and potential hazards you encounter in a workshop, on school premises, at your home and outside on the streets and public places.

In a workshop.

On school premises.

At home.

In public places.

Take a look at the image below and make a circle around all the instances of unsafe practice you can detect.

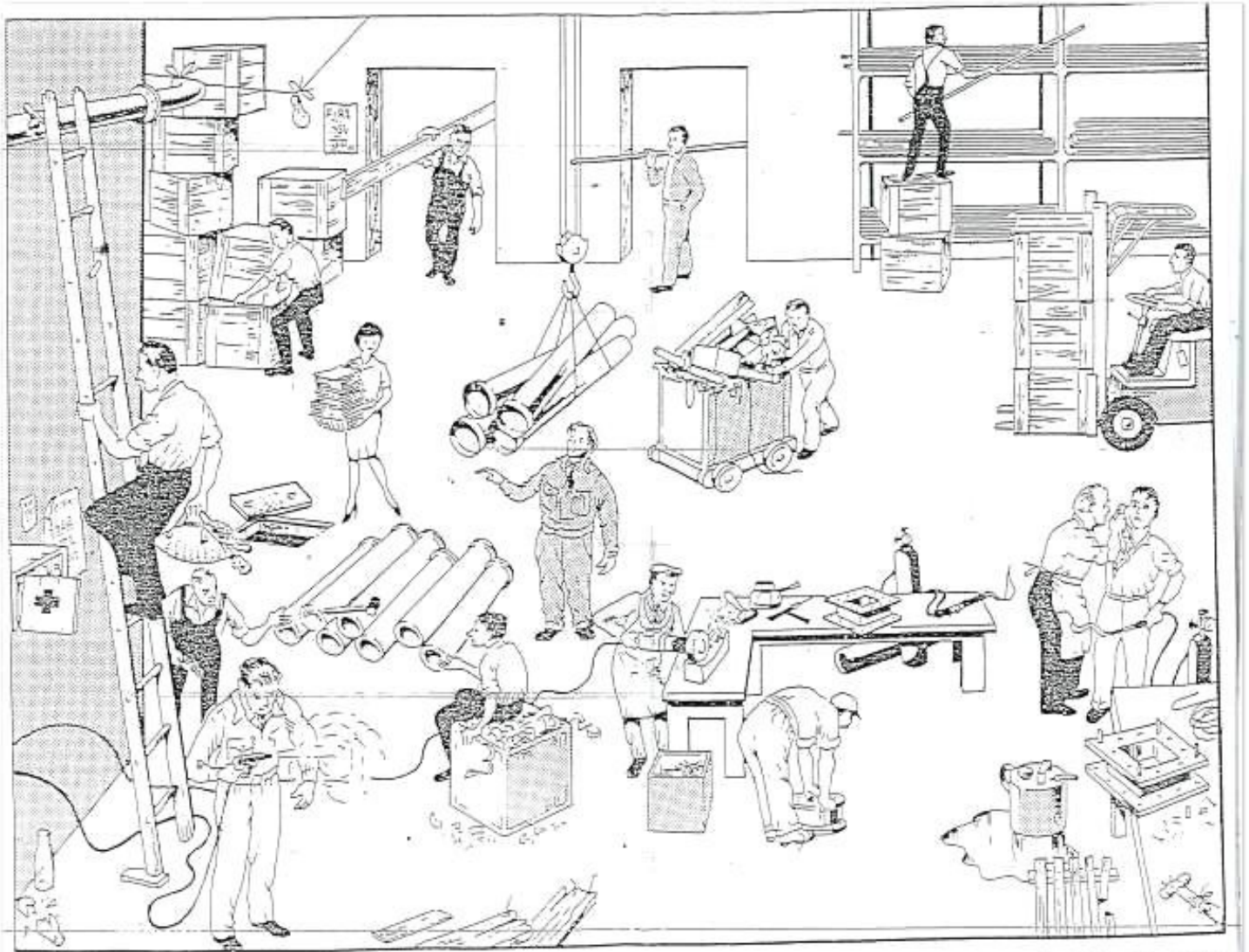


Fig. 4.5 List as many instances of unsafe practice as you can detect (Courtesy "What's Wrong" Safety Posters)

On the same figure above and on your markings, group the hazards into the following categories, and assign each a different colour.

'Red' (Safety Hazards) - can cause obvious injuries like cuts, slips and falls, burns, and back injuries. Some examples are: sharp knives, open flames, pressure containers, slippery floors, and heavy objects. Violence and assaults are also safety hazards.

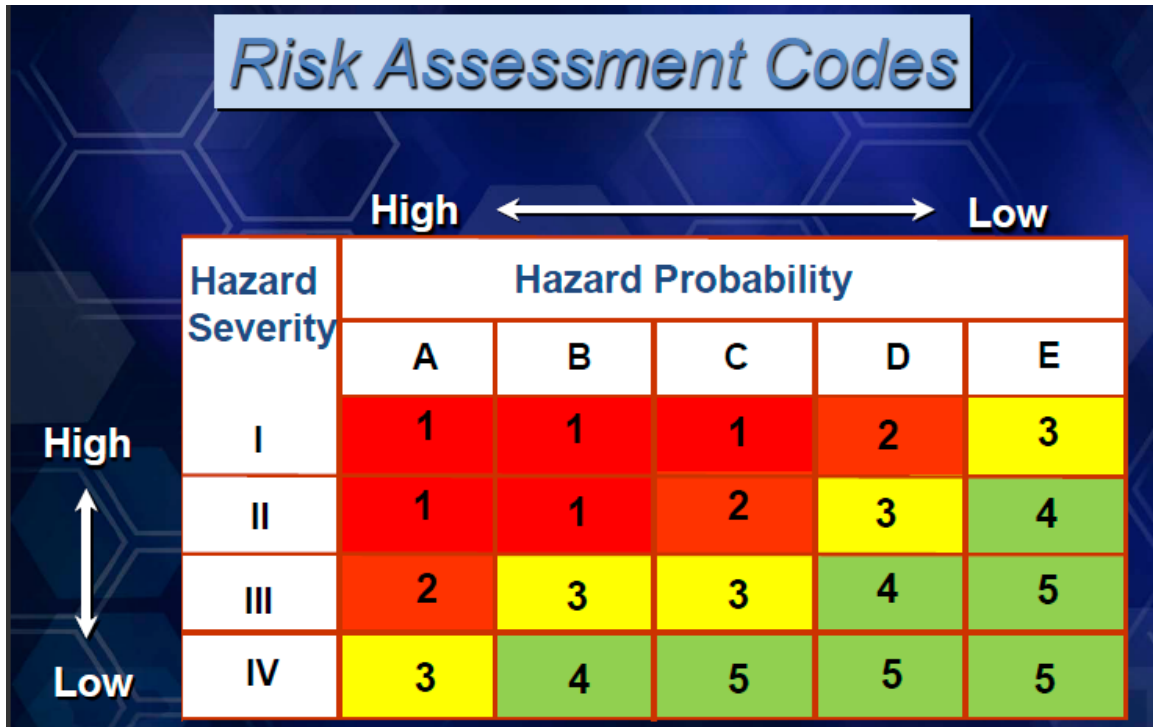
'Blue' (Chemical Hazards) - can cause immediate or longer-term health effects. Some examples are: disinfectants, detergents, solvents, paints, and varnishes.

'Brown' (Other Physical & Environmental Hazards) - include: noise, dust, heat, cold, and unsanitary conditions.

'Green' (Stress Hazards) - can be caused by: pressure to work faster, tension between you and your supervisor, fear of assaults, sexual harassment, working late at night, etc.

<i>Hazard Severity Categories</i>		
Numerical Designation	Classification	Possible Hazard Outcomes
I	Catastrophic	May cause death or total loss of a bodily system
II	Critical	May cause severe bodily injury, severe occupational illness, or major damage to a bodily system
III	Marginal	May cause minor bodily injury, minor occupational illness, or minor damage to a bodily system
IV	Negligible	Would cause less than minor bodily injury, minor occupational illness, or minor damage to a bodily system

<i>Hazard Probability Categories</i>			
Descriptive Word	Level	Specific Individual Item	Fleet or Inventory
Frequent	A	Likely to occur frequently	Continuously experience
Probable	B	Will occur several times in the life of an item	Will occur frequently
Occasional	C	Likely to occur some time in the life of an item	Will occur several times
Remote	D	Unlikely but possible to occur in the life of an item	Unlikely but can reasonably be expected to occur
Improbable	E	So unlikely, it can be assumed occurrence may not be experienced	Unlikely to occur, but possible



On the same figure above (‘What’s Wrong, Safety Poster’ on page 2), next to your previous markings (the circles) and colour coding, assign the Hazard Probability code as well as the Hazard Severity code. (For example, A1, B3, C5, D2, E5).

Generating Solutions: T-Chart of Workplace Hazards and Solution.
 Fill in the ‘Possible Solutions’ section of the T-Chart below.

Sample T-Chart of Workplace Hazards & Possible Solutions	
Hazards	Possible Solutions
<i>Auto Body Shop</i>	
Chemicals from mixing paints.	• •
Defective tools.	• •
Unsanitary bathroom/s.	• •
Pressure from supervisor to do too many tasks caused stress.	• •
No training	• •

Sample T-Chart of Workplace Hazards & Possible Solutions	
Hazards	Possible Solutions
<i>Fast Food Restaurant</i>	
Dishwashing chemicals – skin rash.	• •
Stress from customers.	• •
Stress from supervisor.	• •
Burns.	• •
Locked in freezer.	• •
Possible robberies.	• •

Sample T-Chart of Workplace Hazards & Possible Solutions	
Hazards	Possible Solutions
<i>At Home</i>	
In the Kitchen – Gas leaks from cooker burners.	• •
In the Kitchen – Over heating of cooking oil(s).	• •
In the Kitchen – Skin exposure and fume ingestion from pesticides and detergents.	• •
In the Bathroom – Slip and falls due to wet surfaces with soap and detergents.	• •
In the Living Room – Installation of new TV, hi-fi or other electrical appliances.	• •
Changing of a bulb on an elevated surface.	• •